

REMARKS

Contrary to that indicated in item 4 of the Office Action Summary, claims 27-39 and 41-44 are pending in the application, whereas claims 28-39 and 45-52 have been withdrawn. Claims 27, 40-42 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as described in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Claim 43 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as described in paragraph 4 of the Office Action. Claim 27 is the only independent claim under consideration.

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, for example as disclosed on page 52, line 24 through page 55, line 19, members may be bonded by adhesive tapes, or more preferably, by a transparent adhesive layer or a transparent re-peel sheet.

Claim 27 requires, *inter alia*, “a transparent adhesive layer or a transparent re-peel sheet adhesively bonding overall one of a stationary electrode portion-directly-formed member on which said stationary electrode portion has been directly formed and said liquid crystal display or all of said stationary electrode portion-directly-formed member, the liquid crystal display and a member disposed between the stationary electrode portion-directly-formed member and the liquid crystal display.”

It is respectfully submitted that Sawai et al. (Sawai) fails to teach, or suggest, the above-identified limitations.

As discussed on page 2 of the Office Action, Sawai allegedly discloses “a hard coating (Fig. 3), a PET film (a transparent adhesive layer) bonded to the ITO film, anti reflective coatings (col. 1, line 52).”

While not addressing whether the asserted teachings of Sawai are accurate, it is respectfully submitted that Sawai fails to teach a transparent adhesive layer or a transparent re-peel sheet, as required in amended claim 27. In particular, even if Sawai discloses a PET film bonded to the ITO film via a transparent adhesive layer, the reference would nevertheless fail to teach or suggest “bonding overall one of a stationary electrode portion-directly-formed member on which said stationary electrode portion has been directly formed and said liquid crystal display or all of said stationary electrode portion-directly-formed member, the liquid crystal display and a member disposed between the stationary electrode portion-directly-formed member and the liquid crystal display,” as required in independent claim 27.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 27 would not have been obvious over Sawai, and urge that the rejection of claim 27, and its dependent claims 41, 42 and 44, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that Sugiyama et al. (Sugiyama) fails to teach the shortcomings of Sawai such that a combination of the teachings of Sawai in view of Sugiyama would teach that which is required in independent claim 27. In particular, as discussed in paragraph 4 of the Office Action, Sugiyama is relied upon for allegedly disclosing "a fluorine containing polymer composition, [discloses] that such a composition could be used as an antifouling layer for devices such as touch-panels, liquid crystals etc. (col. 15, lines 37-59)."

While not addressing the accuracy of the alleged teachings of Sugiyama, it is respectfully submitted that Sugiyama, similar to Sawai, fails to teach a transparent adhesive layer or a transparent re-peel sheet as required in independent claim 27. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a combination of the teachings of Sawai in view of Sugiyama additionally fails to teach or suggest that which is required in independent claim 27.

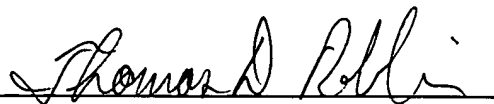
Because claims 41-44 are dependent upon claim 27, and therefore include all of the limitations thereof, it is additionally respectfully submitted that claims 41-44 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Having fully and completely responded to the Office Action, Applicants submit that all of the claims under consideration are now in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhiko TAKAHATA et al.

By: 
Thomas D. Robbins
Registration No. 43,369
Attorney for Applicants